Nobel Laureate Dr. Abdus Salam visited Ahmadiyya Settlement, Ojokoro, Nigeria

When Dr. Abdus Salam received Nobel Prize in physics in 1979, many heads of state and universities held meetings to honor him for this remarkable achievement. In Nigeria a leading university of the North, University of Maidugury held such a meeting. After attending this meeting Prof. Salam visited Lagos, then capital of Nigeria. He was received at the airport by Government represntatives as well as an Ahmadiyya delegation which was headed by Maulana Muhammad Ajmal Shahid, then Ameer and Missionary in-charge of Nigeria Jama'at. In Lagos, Dr. Abdus Salam had a full range of activities. Pakistan Embassy also arranged a lunch in his honor.

An elaborate dinner was arranged in his honor at the Central Ahmadiyya Mission House. The old mission house which was located in the middle of Lagos, was built by Hazrat Hakeem Fazlur Rahman, maternal uncle (mamoo-jan) of Dr. Salam. Maulana Muhammad Ajmal Shahid, explained to Dr. Salam that due to the rapid increase in the number of members, and due to the on-going needs of the community, an Ahmadiyya settlement is planned near the Lagos airport. This will include a new mission house and living quarters for the members. He requested Dr.Salam to visit the site, to which he kindly agreed to go at such a short notice.

On December 21, 1981 when Dr. Salam was going to depart for London, Maulana Muhammad Ajmal Shahid accompanied Dr. Salam to the proposed site. Dr. Salam was delighted to see the mission house, hospital and several other buildings which were under construction. All those present on the occasion prayed earnestly for the success of the project.

During his journey back to London, Dr. Salam wrote a letter in which he expressed his joy for having had the opportunity to visit the new mission house and surrounding buildings. He referred to Maulana Ajmal Shahid as "*Hakeem-e-sani*", the second Hakim. He was referring to Hakeem Fazlur Rahman who had built the old Mission House some 50 years ago.

While traveling

21 December 1981

Respected Ameer Sahib
Assalamo alaikum warahmatullah wa barakatohu

I pray that may Allah keep you safe and sound in every respect.
I could not congratulate you on the construction of new buildings.
The project is impressive, may Allah the almighty bless this
immensely.

Please convey my gratitude to your wife as well. Last night the
dinner was very delicious. Likewise extend my affectionate
greetings to all members of the Jama'at. I will always cherish their
love and sincerity. Give my greetings to Maulana Saqib Sahib.
I pray for the success of your Annual Gathering. Is the
Jalsa Salana going to be held at the new Mission House?

May Allah bless your efforts even more. I feel embarrassed that
I could not spend more time with you. Inadvertently I could not
tell you that before my travel I was going through various tests
at the hospital, even now I had to rush back for the reason of
going to hospital appointment.

sincerely yours,
Abdus Salam

Centenary Celebrations of

Ahmadiyya Jamaat, Nigeria

I wish to congratulate AHMADIYYA Jamaat Nigeria on this auspicious occasion of celebrations of century on the establishment of their Mission. The start of AHMADIYYAT in Nigeria, West Africa was a very humble start. It was in 1916 when one **Mr. Lawal Basil Augusto** accepted AHMADIYYAT by reading some literature. He also convinced some pious souls and thus he started this mission house in his own house at 62 Bangbose Street, Lagos. A regular Mission House was established in 1921, when a companion of Hazrat Imam Mahdi (AS) Hazrat Maulana A. R. Nayyar reached Lagos by a ship named 'Aekabo which means ''Welcome''. He reached on Friday the 8th April, 1921. During his almost two years stay in Nigeria, which continued to grow rapidly and steadily through thick and thin. *Alhamdolillah*

On this happy occasion I wish to share with you an historic incident which was not yet recorded in the history of the Jamaat.